



The Kingdom of God in Ordinary Life

WHITNEY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Christina Thompson

August 23, 2020

Welcome

Rev. Christina Thompson

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 105

*Nicole and Kaylyn
Fournier*

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,
make known God's deeds among the peoples.

People: **Seek the Lord and his strength,
seek the Lord's presence always.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord, sing praises!
Tell of all God's wonderful works.

People: **Seek the Lord and his strength,
seek the Lord's presence always.**

Leader: Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

People: **Seek the Lord and his strength,
seek the Lord's presence always.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

Opening Hymn

I'm Goin' a Sing

UMH 333

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Matthew 13:10-13, 31-33

Children's Moment

Sermon

The Kingdom of God
in Ordinary Life

Rev. Christina Thompson

Pastoral Prayer

based on Romans 8:26-39

Lord's Prayer

Dewey Knowles

Offering

Closing Hymn Seek Ye First

Passing of the Peace

Notes:

Scripture: Matthew 13:10-13, 31-33

The Purpose of the Parables

Then the disciples came and asked him, ‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’ He answered, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that “seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.”

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’

The Parable of the Yeast

He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’

Opening Prayer:

Holy God, we try to fix and fasten you, but you will not be stayed. You are love in motion: always breathing us into being, calling us to serve, sustaining us in the wilderness. Come to us as we worship you this morning. Soften what has grown dry and brittle in our hearts until we worship with abandon, for we pray in the name of the Son you sent and through the Spirit that gives us life. Amen

Pastoral Prayer: (based on Romans 8:26-39)

Holy One, we often do not feel like we know how to pray. Remind us that the Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for us when we have no words for the concerns of our hearts.

We know in our heads that all things work together for good for those who love you and who are called according to your purpose. But God in these days we are living, our hearts are having a harder time believing that truth. Help us this morning to feel and know that you are working all things together for the purpose of your kingdom.

We pray this morning for the church, our local congregation and the church universal, that we would be seed and yeast where life has grown barren and heavy, May the life we discover in your bind us to each other and to the world you love, for no need is beyond the strength of your call, and no child of yours is expendable. Merciful

God give us wisdom and courage beyond our imagining and help us to believe in our hearts and in our actions that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We Pray for all of those who are ill, for those struggling to find meaning in their lives. We pray for all who stand at the threshold of life: for your children who are soon to be born and your children who are soon to go home.

We pray for those who we name now in the quiet of our hearts.

Holy One, keep calling us into the world—your world, as seed, yeast and treasure. Equip us for the challenges we will face and help us to always know you are with us. We pray this in the name of your son and in the power of the spirit. Amen

Offertory Prayer:

O God, Jesus taught that where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also.

In this hour, we come bringing our treasures— all that we have and all that we are.

We come seeking your treasure— treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint. Share with us the treasure of heaven, that we may boldly share it with others. Amen.

Song Texts:

I'm Goin' a Sing

I'm goin' a sing when the spirit says sing.
I'm goin' a sing when the spirit says sing.
I'm goin' a sing when the spirit says sing,
and obey the spirit of the Lord.

I'm goin' a pray when the spirit says pray.
I'm goin' a pray when the spirit says pray.
I'm goin' a pray when the spirit says pray,
and obey the spirit of the Lord.

I'm goin' a shout when the spirit says shout.
I'm goin' a shout when the spirit says shout.
I'm goin' a shout when the spirit says shout,
and obey the spirit of the Lord.

#333 – I'm Goin' a Sing

CCLI Song # 3325265

William Farley Smith

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Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Man does not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That cometh forth from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Ask, and it will be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Seek Ye First

CCLI Song # 1352

Karen Lafferty

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Zoom Coffee Hour

Coffee hour on Zoom at 10:45.

Check your email or Facebook for the link.

Credits

- Offertory Prayer: Rev. Dr. Barb Hedges-Goettl, PC(USA) pastor and liturgical scholar. Posted on **bjhlog**.

Listen live on Sunday mornings

At 9:45 am, on your phone, dial: 1+301-715-8592

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broadcast.

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